

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The tone reproduction curve is smoothed to eliminate or reduce artifacts due to abrupt changes in the *final* system tone reproduction curve. As the tone reproduction curve approaches an end point, it is modified, if necessary, so that the angle between a tangent to the tone reproduction curve at a point, and a line from that point to the end point is less than a threshold value. The end point is considered to be a corner of a box, the threshold value is a function of the distance from the point to the nearest of the walls of the corner, and the threshold value goes to zero as the distance to the wall goes to zero. Thus, the tone reproduction curve is guided to the end point in a smooth and monotonic fashion.